| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
|---|---|---|---|
| Pondicherry | 0 | 0 | 2 |
| APO**** | 2 | 0 | 0 |
| TOTAL : | 943 | 45 | 519 |

* AI: Accredited Institution.

** AVI: Accredited Vocational Institution.

*** SAIED: Special Accredited Institutions for Education of the Disadvantaged

**** APO: Army Post Office

**Establishment of Central or Open University**

425. PROF. M.M. AGARWAL: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have a proposal to establish any new Central University or Open University in the country during the Tenth Five Year Plan;

(b) if so, the details thereof location-wise; and

(c) the necessary steps taken by Government in this respect?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (DR. VALLABHBHAI RAMJIBHAI KATHIRIA): (a) to (c) The Government has decided, in principle, to incorporate the existing University of Allahabad as a Central University.

As regards Open Universities, the Distance Education Council (DEC), a statutory body set up under the Indira Gandhi National Open University (IGNOU) Act, has been projecting the desirability of establishing at least one Open University in each State. The Tenth Plan proposals (2002-2007) envisage establishing eight new State Open Universities. While the Tamil Nadu State Open University has already been set up in Chennai during the year 2002, the proposals of the State Governments for establishment of two new Open Universities in Chhattisgarh and Uttaranchal have been vetted by the DEC.